

double our per capita income in 10 years, and that means we must grow at 9 percent a year.

To achieve this order of growth, we have ushered in comprehensive reforms. We are committed to releasing the creative genius of our people, the entrepreneurial skills of the men and women of the country, of its scientists and craftsmen. At the same time, we in India remain committed to the primacy of the State in fulfilling its social obligations to the deprived, the weak, and the poor.

Important sectors of the country's infrastructure, power, insurance, banking, telecom, are being opened to private initiative, domestic and foreign. Trade barriers are being lowered.

Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, there are forces outside our country that believe that they can use terror to unravel the territorial integrity of India. They wish to show that a multi-religious society cannot exist. They pursue a task in which they are doomed to fail.

No country has faced as ferocious an attack of terrorist violence as India has over the past 2 decades. Twenty-one thousand were killed by foreign sponsored terrorists in Punjab alone, and 16,000 have been killed in Jammu and Kashmir.

As many of you here in the Congress have in recent hearings recognized a stark fact: no region is a greater source of terrorism than our neighborhood. Indeed, in our neighborhood, in this, the 21st century, religious war has not just been fashioned into, it has been proclaimed to be, an instrument of State policy.

Distance offers no insulation. It should not cause complacency. You know and I know such evil cannot succeed. But even in failing, it could inflict untold suffering. That is why the United States and India have begun to deepen their cooperation for combating terrorism. We must redouble these efforts.

Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, there was a time when we were on the other side of each other's globes. Today, on every digital map, India and the United States are neighbors and partners.

India and the United States have taken the lead in shaping the information age. Over the last decade, this new technology has sustained American prosperity in a way that has challenged conventional wisdom on economic growth. We are two nations blessed with extraordinary resources and talent. Measured in terms of the industries of tomorrow, we are together defining the partnerships of the future.

But our two countries have the potential to do more to shape the character of the global economy in this century. We should turn the example of our own cooperation into a partnership that uses the possibilities of the new

technologies for defining new ways of fighting poverty, illiteracy, hunger, disease, and pollution.

Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, we believe that India and America can, and should, march hand in hand towards a world in which economic conditions improve for all. A situation that provides comfortable living standards to one-third of the world's population, but condemns the remaining two-thirds to poverty and want is unsustainable.

The foremost responsibility that the 21st century has cast on all of us is to change this unacceptable legacy of the past. It should be our common endeavor to overcome this legacy. I, therefore, propose a comprehensive global dialogue on development. We would be happy to offer New Delhi as the venue for this dialogue.

In this Congress, you have often expressed concern about the future contours of Asia. Will it be an Asia that will be at peace with itself? Or will it be a continent where countries seek to redraw boundaries and settle claims, historical or imaginary, through force?

We seek an Asia where power does not threaten stability and security. We do not want the domination of some to crowd out the space for others. We must create an Asia where cooperative rather than aggressive assertion of national self-interests defines behavior among nations.

If we want an Asia fashioned on such ideals, a democratic, prosperous, tolerant, pluralistic, stable Asia, if we want an Asia where our vital interests are secure, then it is necessary for us to re-examine old assumptions.

It is imperative for India and the United States to work together more closely in pursuit of these goals. In the years ahead, a strong, democratic and economically prosperous India standing at the crossroads of all of the major cultural and economic zones of Asia will be an indispensable factor of stability in the region.

Our cooperation for peace and stability requires us to also define the principles of our own engagement. We must be prepared to accommodate our respective concerns. We must have mutual confidence to acknowledge our respective roles and complementary responsibilities in areas of vital importance to each of us.

Security issues have cast a shadow on our relationship. I believe this is unnecessary. We have much in common and no clash of interests.

We both share a commitment to ultimately eliminating nuclear weapons. We have both declared voluntary moratoriums on testing.

India understands your concerns. We do not wish to unravel your non-proliferation efforts. We wish you to understand our security concerns.

We are at a historic moment in our ties. As we embark on our common en-

deavor to build a new relationship, we must give practical shape to our shared belief that democracies can be friends, partners, and allies.

In recent years, through all of the good and difficult times, we have spoken to each other more often than we have ever done in the past. I thank President Clinton for his leadership and vision in steering this dialogue. I sincerely thank Members of this Congress for supporting and encouraging this process.

As we talk with candor, we open the doors to new possibilities and new areas of cooperation, in advancing democracy, in combating terrorism, in energy and environment, science and technology, and in international peace-keeping. And we are discovering that our shared values and common interests are leading us to seek a natural partnership of shared endeavors.

India and the United States have taken a decisive step away from the past. The dawn of the new century has marked a new beginning in our relations.

Let us work to fulfill this promise and the hope of today.

Let us remove the shadow of hesitation that lies between us and our joint vision.

Let us use the strength of all that we have in common to build together a future that we wish for ourselves and for the world that we live in.

Thank you.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 10 o'clock and 28 minutes a.m., the Prime Minister of India, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

□ 1030

JOINT MEETING DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The purpose of the joint meeting having been completed, the Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m., the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The House will continue in recess until approximately 11 a.m.

□ 1104

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska) at 11 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 one-minute speeches.

CALL TO PAY OFF OUR DEBT

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, a call to action has been given. The Clinton-Gore administration has been called upon to join this Republican Congress in protecting the future of the younger generations of Americans.

The Republican leadership has called upon the President to make a real commitment by joining our effort to use up to 90 percent of the surplus to pay off the national debt.

Yet, what has been the President's response to this call to action? Well, so far it has been ambivalence. He has said, well, that depends on "what the various spending commitments are."

Well, Mr. President, that simply is not good enough. It is time to stop wasteful Washington spending and pay off our national debt.

This fiscally responsible Republican Congress is protecting the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds; and now it is time to pay off the public debt so that our children will not be burdened by it in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon the administration to join with us and my colleagues on this fair, middle ground to pay off our national debt and to protect the future of our Nation and of our children.

CHILDHOOD CANCER MONTH

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, September is Childhood Cancer Month.

Unfortunately, today cancer is the number one disease killer of children. This devastation knows no boundaries. It cuts across all social, economic and ethnic groups.

This year alone, an estimated 12,400 children will be diagnosed with cancer and 2,300 will die from the disease.

Despite the advances in early detection and treatment, only two-thirds of children diagnosed with cancer survive. And data shows that the incidence of cancer among children has increased 20 percent over the past 20 years.

So this must stop.

Even though the majority of children's leukemia are now curable, mortality is still substantial among children with solid tumors.

The progress in medical research in childhood cancer should be celebrated, but much more work needs to be done in pediatric cancer research.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, childhood cancer still remains an underrecognized and underserved need.

The time to change is now. Our children are our future.

DISPUTE OVER KASHMIR

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the refugees and others who suffer as a result of the dispute over Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

We heard earlier in joint session about the suffering on the Indian side. Well, earlier this year I visited a camp on the Pakistani side that was filled with Kashmiris who were wounded or who had relatives who were wounded or dead from fighting. Several had their limbs cut off by their Indian adversaries.

These Kashmiris pleaded with me to urge the U.N. to get involved and somehow bring an end to the bloodshed and suffering of the Kashmiri people and relief to the refugees. They are called displaced persons, not refugees, so they are ineligible for relief.

Some reports suggest that over a million people have become refugees since 1947 as a result of the conflict.

Madam Speaker, I urge Secretary General Kofi Annan to appoint a special envoy to help bring an end to this conflict to get the two sides to the negotiating table. I urge the governments of Pakistan and India to dialogue with each other, find a solution to this long, drawn out conflict.

And why not allow the Kashmiris to hold a referendum for self-determination? India is the world's largest democracy. What is wrong with letting people in Kashmir vote on their future?

In the meantime, forces should pull back from the line of conflict and relief should be provided to the suffering refugees of Kashmir.

"IN GOD IS OUR TRUST"

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Madam Speaker, on this day, 186 years ago in 1814, Francis Scott Key penned the Star-Spangled Banner. Key was both a prominent attorney and a man of strong Christian faith and convictions. In fact, he was one of the early leaders of the American Sunday School movement. And while a U.S. Attorney under President Andrew Jackson, Key carried on significant discourses about faith with leading Members of the United States Congress.

It is no surprise, then, that the fourth version of Key's Star-Spangled Banner sets forth the religious language of our national motto years before it was officially adopted. Recalling the language of that fourth verse:

"Blest with vict'ry and peace may the Heaven rescued land

"Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!

"Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,

"And this be our motto, 'In God is our trust.'

"And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave.

"O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

"In God is Our Trust" was penned by Francis Scott Key as our national motto on this day in 1814; and the truth of that motto is as real today as it was 186 years ago.

NFL HOUSTON TEXANS

(Mr. GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, it has been 3 long years and Houston once again has a professional football team, an NFL team. That name last week was decided to be the Houston Texans.

Since 1997, when the Oilers left Houston to go on to Tennessee, football fans have hoped and dreamed for this moment. In Houston it was a long and hard road. Even though it is only 3 years, it seems like many more.

I want to thank the owner who brought the NFL back to Houston, Bob McNair. Without his hard work, dedication and effort, we would not have this possible, but also to the people of Houston and Harris County who voted to build the new stadium right next to the eighth wonder of the world, the Astrodome.

As any Texan can tell us, football is more than just a sport or game, it is a religion in Texas. Texans are crazy about football, and Houstonians are now crazy about the Houston Texans.

Professional football has a long history in my hometown. In the early days of the AFL, the Houston Oilers were a powerhouse, winning the championships in 1961 and 1962; and when